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REMARKS

In the instant Action, Claims 18-44 are listed as pending, Claims 32-43 are listed as withdrawn from consideration, and Claims 18-31 and 44 are listed as objected to.

SUMMARY of TELECONFERENCE

Applicants are grateful for the teleconference that the Examiner Audet granted to Applicants' undersigned attorney Tony Uhm on June 11, 2008.

Applicants' attorney inquired as to whether the Examiner would be amenable to vacate Applicants' previous response to the restriction/election requirement which was filed on October 31, 2007, and accept Applicants' new election to the restriction/election requirement, based on the following compounds which share a substantial, contiguous, core structure consisting of 6 fixed amino acids out of 8 amino acids:

H₂-Phe-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-Thr-NH₂
H₂-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-Thr-NH₂
H₂-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-β-Nal-NH₂
H₂-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-Thr-NH₂
H₂-D-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-Thr-NH₂
H₂-D-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-β-Nal-NH₂

The Examiner agreed to accept the above highlighted contiguous core structure, D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe, as Applicants' new election and vacate Applicants' previous response to the restriction/election requirement which was filed on October 31, 2007. As such, Applicants have canceled Claims 18-22, 25-26, 29-30, 36, and 38-44. Applicants have amended Claim 23 in such a manner that D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe constitutes the contiguous core structure. Likewise, Applicants have amended Claims 27 and 31 in such a manner that all of the remaining specifically listed compounds have the above highlighted contiguous core structure, D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe. It should be noted that some of the remaining

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compounds of Claim 27, which contain the contiguous core structure of D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe, are in addition to the above-discussed compounds which served as a point of discussion during the teleconference. For instance, Claim 27, as presently amended, contains (H) (CH₃CO)-β-Nal-D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-β-Nal-NH₂, which contains the contiguous core structure of D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe, as highlighted.

The Examiner also agreed to search the first compound of Claim 27, H₂-Phe-D-Phe-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Thr-Phe-Thr-NH₂, before being amended to delete this compound, even though this compound does not share the the above highlighted contiguous core structure, D-Cpa-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe, if Applicants would present this compound in a new claim. As such, Applicants have added new Claim 45. In addition, Applicants have taken the liberty to include the second compound of Claim 27, H₂-Phe-D-Phe-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Val-Phe-Thr-NH₂, since this compound is identical to the first compound of Claim 27, except the amino acid at position 6 is Val, instead of Thr. Although this point was not specifically discussed during the teleconference, Applicants' attorney took the liberty to include the second compound of Claim 27 believing that it would increase the Examiner's search burden only slightly. Applicants have also added new Claims 46-50, which are directed to various methods of using the compounds of Claim 45.

REJOINDER

Applicants believe that method Claims 32-35 and 37, which are presently amended to depend on Claim 23, as amended, are subject to rejoinder upon allowance of the product Claims 23-24, 27-28, and 31, pursuant to MPEP §821.04. Likewise, the new method Claims 46-50

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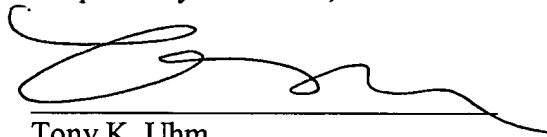
should also be examined on their merit if the Examiner finds that the new product Claim 45 is allowable.

Examiner Audet is invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney at (508) 478-0144 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees that may be due or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0590.

Date: 6/12/2008

Respectfully submitted,



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